

# The Rosetta Stone

BRIGHTSTAR 01/02

Cairo West Air Base, Egypt

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Photo by: SrA Chrissy Szczepanski

## Bump, set, spike!

Specialist Yohanna Lozanomunoz, Army 11th Battalion, Four Story Virginia Beach, makes her way in for the spike during a volleyball game Saturday night. The 75th Expeditionary Services Squadron and 75th Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron set up a volleyball pit and basketball court in the Morale, Welfare and Recreation revetment to supplement the indoor fitness center and outdoor aerobic classes.

## First in...last out

### TALCE captures people, equipment for BRIGHT STAR 01/02

By 2nd Lt. Kimberly Melchor  
Cairo West Public Affairs

It's been a busy day on the flightline as the Tanker Airlift Control Element prepares to "catch another bird," the third "bird" for the day. On an average day during the deployment phase of BRIGHT STAR 01/02 the team will capture approximately two to three aircraft by day and one overnight.

Their job starts when the notification of incoming aircraft shows up on the Global Decision Support System about 72 hours

before the anticipated arrival time. They immediately research the type of aircraft, what kind of cargo it's carrying, how many passengers it has and any other pertinent information to process passengers and equipment into the exercise area.

The key factor to getting the job done is to ensure there is adequate communication flow between the TALCE and the people who know the

See **TALCE**, page 2

## Briefs

### Commander's Kudos

Congratulations to the people who received a commander's coin from Col. J.C. Dodson, 75th Air Expeditionary Group commander this week for outstanding performance.

SSgt. **Dudley Spooner**, 75th Expeditionary Communications Squadron.

SSgt. **Tammie Francis**, 75th Air Expeditionary Group.

SrA **Lashandra Battle**, 9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force.

### Weekly Award Winners

Congratulations to this week's Team Qui Web award winners.

Airman category: A1C **Joshua Searcy**, 75th Expeditionary Communications Squadron.

Non-commissioned officer category: SSgt. **Jesse Watson**, 75th Expeditionary Communications Squadron.

Senior non-commissioned officer category: MSgt. **Bill Dow**, 75th Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron.

Company grade officer category: Capt. **Gregg Matsumoto**, 9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force

### CGOC meeting

There will be a Company Grade Officer Council meeting Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the conference tent. Contact 1st Lt. Jessica Joyner or 2nd Lt. Kim Melchor for more information.

## TALCE, cont'd from page 1

status of the aircraft. "At times we've had aircraft show up three hours early with only 30 minutes notice. This causes a ripple effect on all the other organizations that fall into play when notice of an incoming aircraft is given with little notice," said Capt. Pat Poon, Tanker Airlift Control Element commander.

"We're the first to interact with the incoming aircrews," said MSgt. Rico Flores, Mission Support Team chief, who is supporting his third Brightstar exercise. "We need to immediately assess their needs — be it fuel, maintenance or cargo to be offloaded — all to get the aircraft back in the air on time." The TALCE processes cargo ranging anywhere from 30 to more than 100 short tons and up to 375 passengers on a commercial or military aircraft. They can handle up to four aircraft on the ground at the same time with each aircraft averaging 45 minutes to an hour and a half to process.

Air Mobility Command established a global command and control and mission support network consisting of fixed and mobile organizations to manage, coordinate, support and control air mobility missions. TALCE is the mobile organization responsible for providing on-site management of mobility airfield operations. It is comprised of three components: command and control, aerial port services and aircraft maintenance, and it may contain mission support elements such as security forces, weather, intelligence and other critical elements needed to ensure a safe and highly efficient airfield for air mobility operations.

"We deploy as our own self-contained unit complete with a communications network, power and all the equipment necessary to build up our area and sustain operations at any location ranging from a bare base set up like we have here, to a fully operational airport," said Poon.

Deploying a TALCE package into the field can be a challenge as it must sustain operations and capture aircraft from the moment the first crew lands until the full TALCE package arrives. With intercontinental travel it would be the luck of the draw to see which aircraft would make it into Cairo West Air Base first and the crew had to be prepared for any scenario.

"We had to be real careful about exactly who we placed on each flight. We wanted a representative from each component of our operation to be on the aircraft and with the appropriate equipment to control the airfield until the follow-on planes would arrive," said Poon.

The TALCE is comprised of people from a variety of specialized career fields pulling resources from maintenance, aircrews, loadmasters, command and control, communications and other areas. Poon and most of his crew are stationed out of the 615th Air Mobility Operations Group at Travis Air Force



Photo by: SrA Chrissy Szczepanski

### "Easy does it..."

Tanker Airlift Control Element personnel off-load cargo from a C-17 Wednesday. The TALCE can offload anywhere from 30 to more than 100 short tons of cargo from one aircraft.

Base, Calif., but his team is also comprised of personnel from the 621st AMOG at McGuire AFB, N.J., the 463rd Air Lift Control Squadron at Little Rock AFB, Ark., the 436th Air Mobility Wing at Dover AFB, Del. and from other bases across the Air Force.

The team deployed 70 people and four aircraft to fly into Cairo West Air Base. The crew worked in rotating shifts continuously for the first 48-hours to capture incoming aircraft and set up their facility.

The TALCE is an integral part of the 75th Air Expeditionary Group, but it doesn't fall under the group, it is a component of the United States Transportation Command whose mission is to provide support for global engagement of U.S. forces.

"We do this year-round at locations all over the world," said Poon, referring to the team's management of on-site airfield operations. "The TALCE is not part of the exercise scenario for BRIGHTSTAR 01/02, but provides operational support to process passengers in and out of the field." They are the first crew in and the last crew to redeploy.

Even though the TALCE and the 75th AEG are separate units, they worked together to help build up the base. TALCE played an important role in general base set-up by assisting the civil engineering squadron with tent build-up, HVAC repair and other services.

The TALCE deploys in support of Special Assignment Airlift Missions, Joint Airborne Air Transportability Training, exercises, tanker support, contingency and emergency relief missions on a planned and/or no-notice basis. The TALCE provides no-notice Global Reach Laydown anywhere in the world, by maintaining a 12-hour alert status 365 days a year.

# The aftermath of tragedy

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By Brig. Gen. Arthur Diehl III  
Secretary of the Air Force  
director of marketing

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WASHINGTON (AFPN) - As I walked into the Pentagon on the morning of Sept. 12, the sight of our American flag flying at half-staff, silhouetted against a brilliant orange sunrise, brought home the pride and emotions so caught up inside all of us.

The sorrow, anger, compassion and patriotism came together in heartfelt sympathy for those who are suffering, our own family and our nation. In a moment, while we were spellbound watching on CNN the tragedy at the World Trade Center, our lives in the Pentagon changed forever. This massive building shook, a loud explosion was felt, terror descended upon us all, and evacuation ensued. We couldn't believe it -- an attack on the Pentagon!

Outside, accounting for office members, assisting others and helping with rescue efforts dominated our thoughts as we saw smoke billowing from across the Pentagon. People held hands and wrapped arms around each other, praying. This was real -- a massive, horrific tragedy unfolding. Our nation was under attack; our comrades were suffering, our lives in danger. Words cannot describe the selfless, heroic efforts to rescue those trapped or describe the comfort felt with the roar of a couple of F-16s overhead, signaling the skies were clear.

The next day, the Pentagon was back in business. We took a hit but no one wavered. Our nation needed us.

We went to see firsthand the damage, the aftermath of this tragedy. No one could believe the catastrophic damage to the Pentagon -- it was horrible. A whole "wedge" had collapsed; the aircraft had penetrated about three of the five "rings"

of the building. There wasn't a single piece of the jet to be seen anywhere.

Everyone prayed and prayed. We wanted to start digging and help the search for survivors.

Stepping back and looking across the whole lawn and helicopter pad, we realized how massive, how well-organized the rescue efforts had already grown. As far as one could see, the military, fire and rescue, police, engineers, chaplains and medical teams were in place, working around the clock.

Equally, the Salvation Army, Red Cross, churches and so many crisis response and family support organizations, as well as hundreds of volunteers, were engaged in recovery operations.

America was uniting, responding to this attack, this tragedy. A Baptist church from North Carolina had set up operations, providing food and comfort to family members praying, waiting and hoping for their loved ones to emerge. Love, comfort, hope and strength were everywhere.

Now, I cannot tell you how proud I am of all our airmen - men, women, officers, enlisted, civilians, guards, reserves - who showed such courage, sacrificed without hesitation to participate in the heroic aftermath of this tragedy.

Our Air Force jets have secured the skies. Our medical corps is now gathering hundreds of specialists, precious supplies of blood and tons of medical resources at McGuire Air Force Base intended for New York. And our services professionals prepare for the grim but necessary task of providing mortuary support through Dover Air Force Base.

Our Air Force has come together to the fullest extent of our capability to support rescue, recovery and security operations. We are so proud to wear this blue suit, to be a part of this great military team.

America has been attacked, our homeland was the target, our people the casualties. America has suffered greatly. But America is now responding — this nation and our people are resilient. Comfort for our loved ones, rescue and recovery, as well as reassuring our security are our priorities.

Our national leaders have taken command of this tragic situation and will direct the appropriate response. We all have utmost respect and faith in them and their decisions. We all are ready to carry out their orders.

Let there be absolutely no doubt, our armed forces and your Air Force will not rest until we have exhausted our rescue efforts, buried our brethren and taken care of our families.

Even more, our nation can be assured we will not rest until we fulfill the promise of our president that freedom will be defended and this terrorism will be utterly defeated.

We all will remember Sept. 11, 2001, but today we must rally to the sides of the families who are suffering, rally to the rescue and recovery efforts and rally to support our president and our leadership as they continue to lead our great nation. Our armed forces and our nation will respond with all our strength and resolve to preserve our security, freedom and way of life.

Please, please continue to pray for those missing, those who are suffering and those supporting recovery operations.

America is a wonderful nation. Let us come together in this time of need. Fly our American flag — you wave it; we'll protect it!

*We remember...*

*... Sept. 11, 2001*

# Keep your eye on the prize

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Commentary By Col. J.C. Dodson  
75th Air Expeditionary Group commander

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As we transition our efforts from the build-up phase of BRIGHT STAR to the sustainment phase, we must keep focused on our objectives. As you have heard me say many times, my commitment to you is to ensure that “plane tickets in country equal plane tickets home.” Simply stated, I depend on each of you to ensure we maintain adequate force protection awareness and conduct operations in a safe manner during this exercise. Our duties are inherently dangerous, but we can minimize risks if we stay alert and follow established procedures.

Over the last two weeks we have experienced several minor accidents that could have been prevented. We have a limited amount of resources available to conduct this exercise in terms of both manpower and equipment. Any loss of resources can jeopardize our ability to perform this mission. Mission

accomplishment actions must be considered within the bounds of safe operational procedures. Operations should follow your established home-station training procedures – using short cuts often results in accidents. I am depending on each of you to keep each other safe and protect our vital resources.

Current world events continue to influence our BRIGHT STAR efforts, but we are committed to staying the course and keeping our “eye on the prize.” The prize being a safe and successful BRIGHT STAR. I challenge you all to stay focused and give this exercise your full attention. Look out for each other and maintain the great ops tempo that you have established with safety and efficiency considered in all your decisions. BRIGHT STAR continues to be an important component of our nation’s international security policy and each of you play a key role in making it a success. I continue to be impressed with your spirit and initiative. A number of distinguished visitors have commented to me on the enthusiasm and positive attitudes they’ve experienced while visiting our base—let’s keep it rolling!

## News briefs from around the Air Force

### New military personnel data system experiences growing pains

The launch of the new military personnel database modernization — MilMod — has not been without its challenges. Because of glitches bringing the system on line in early June, some airmen have not been paid correctly.

Some, especially new airmen and those who have recently re-enlisted, may not have been paid anything until going to their finance offices. Some assignment actions are on hold.

As with any new system, many problems only become known once the system becomes operational. This new system is the largest of its kind in the world. Personnel officials still anticipate a few more months of problems while they continue to

work the bugs out.

MilMod affects just about every part of the personnel process, everyone should be extra vigilant, paying close attention to his or her own personal matters.

For pay concerns, carefully check Leave and Earnings Statements and mid-month pay advice statements; do not spend pay raises and bonuses before confirming the money has been received.

For assignment and other issues, talk to the appropriate office at the military personnel flight. In general, keep careful track of personal and financial issues.

### SGLI coverage extends to family members

The Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance will be extended to provide coverage to family members beginning Nov. 1. Under the new provisions, spouses and children will be automatically covered if the military member is an SGLI participant. The member will have the option to decline spouse coverage if submitted in writing.

The maximum automatic coverage is \$100,000 for a member’s spouse, and any lesser amount must be evenly divisible by \$10,000.

However, the amount of coverage of a member’s spouse cannot exceed the amount of coverage of the insuring member. Premiums for spouse coverage will be charged based upon spouse’s age and

will range from 9 cents to 55 cents per \$1,000 of coverage. For example, \$100,000 of coverage could be obtained on a spouse younger than 35 for \$9 per month.

Military personnel flights can expect to receive detailed implementing instructions in September.

**(Air Force Link)**

# Getting out alive

## Fire safety in tent city

Commentary By TSgt. Bill Daniel  
75th Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron

Do you realize your tent can burn to the ground in about two minutes and can become unsurvivable in only 45 seconds?

Someone doesn't have to be a physicist to understand the chemical reaction commonly known as fire. For combustion to start, three things are needed: fuel, heat, and oxygen. This is known as the fire triangle. When these properties occur in the appropriate quantity, there is fire. Remove one element of the triangle and the fire goes out. Understanding how fire is created can help people understand how to extinguish it.

The fire extinguishers in the tents are well suited to put out a small fire. Make sure it is out of the box and ready for use. If a tent can burn to the ground in two minutes, imagine how

far the fire would progress if someone had to spend 20 seconds removing the extinguisher from its shipping container. Also, check the gauge to ensure the needle is in the green area. It will be of little use if it's undercharged.

To use the extinguisher pull the pin, aim the nozzle at the base of the fire and squeeze the lever while sweeping in a side-to-side motion overlapping the edges of the fire. Using the extinguisher can help combat a small fire. If it's too big, get out and sound the fire gong located in each tent city main corridor. There's also one located approximately 50 feet in front of the dinning tent near the officer billets.

People should get out of the fire area immediately. Don't try to take anything because a tent fire is very unpredictable. It will flash over without warning. One key to getting out alive is to always have two unobstructed exits. The back of the tents should not be laced closed because it blocks a secondary exit that could be used in case of emergency.

The two important elements to tent fire safety are to have a ready extinguisher and keep all exits clear. A tent fire can be a terrible thing and the loss of a life due to inattention would be a tragedy.

### National Football League - week two

Carolina	16	Buffalo	26
Atlanta	24	Indianapolis	42
Minnesota	10	NY Giants	13
Chicago	17	Kansas City	3
Baltimore	10	St. Louis	30
Cincinnati	21	San Fransisco	26
Denver	38	Philadelphia	27
Arizona	17	Seattle	3
Detroit	14	San Diego	32
Cleveland	24	Dallas	21
Oakland	15	NY Jets	10
Miami	18	New England	3

### College Football - as of Monday

South Carolina	16	Akron	14
Mississippi St.	14	Purdue	33
Rice	3	New Mexico St.	0
Nebraska	48	Kansas State	64
Florida State	9	Fresno State	37
North Carolina	41	Tulsa	18

### Get a balanced diet

The meals provided through the meals-ready-to-eat and hot meals served at the dining hall are specially prepared to offer a balance of the body's daily requirements. Be sure to eat from all of the food groups provided to maintain a healthy diet.

### Help prevent illness

People should place their cots in tents to alternate heads and feet facing toward the outside of the tent. This will help prevent people from passing any upper-respiratory infections that can be spread through coughing, etc.

### Weather back home

Weather forecast for Tuesday. Temperatures are noted in degrees Fahrenheit.

Boise	87
Charlotte	73
Denver	84
Los Angeles	73
Salt Lake City	86
San Antonio	81
San Fransisco	68
St. Louis	71
Tampa	82

# *The Back Page*

## **Community Activities Center News**

Friday -- Checkers tournament at 8 p.m.

Toastmasters speech contest -- Oct. 13 at 5 p.m. Contact MSgt. David Vassar for more information.

Smooth Rock Contest- bring the smoothest rock in Cairo to be judged Oct. 6 at 1 p.m. For safety reasons people should only search for rocks in the tent city area.

All of the community activities center events will be at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation revettement.

## **Aerobic classes**

**Step Aerobics:** Mon, Wed, Fri 6:30 p.m.

**Body Sculpting:** Tues, Thurs, Sat 6:30 p.m.

Classes will be held at the MWR revettement. Participants should bring a large towel to the sculpting class.

## **9-1 Dining Facility Menu**

**Monday** -- Dinner: Pork ribs, beans with rice and corn.

**Tuesday** -- Breakfast: Pork sausage, eggs and waffles with blueberry. Dinner: Hamburger and pork and beans.

**Wednesday** -- Breakfast: Creamed beef, omelet and potatoes. Dinner: Spaghetti and meatballs, green beans.

**Thursday** -- Breakfast: Variety of previous meals. Dinner: Chow mein, peas and carrots, rice

**Friday** -- Breakfast: Sausage and western omelet. Dinner: Beef strip, rice and corn.

**Saturday** -- To be determined

**Sunday** -- To be determined

**Monday** -- To be determined

## **Make our motto contest**

Qui Web residents are invited to create the base motto and mascot. Everyone is welcome to participate in this contest designed to promote base pride and a sense of unity.

Ideas can be submitted by an individual or by groups of up to five people. Winners will receive a one-day pass and a 75th Air Expeditionary Group T-shirt. Submissions for the base motto and/or mascot are due to the command section by noon Wednesday. Winners will be announced Thursday at commander's call. Submissions will be judged by a board.

## **Commander's Call**

There will be a commander's call for all members of Qui Web Thursday at 8 p.m. in the MWR revettement.

## **Handy Egyptian Phrases**

What is your name?

Hal ismka?

My name is \_\_\_\_\_

Isme \_\_\_\_\_

I don't speak Arabic

La atakallam Arabi

## **Worship Services**

### **Worship**

Sat. 6 p.m. -- Catholic Mass

Sun. 8 a.m. -- Gospel Service

Sun. 11 a.m. -- Catholic Mass

Sun. 1 p.m. -- Church of Latter Day Saints

Sun. 3 p.m. -- Protestant Service

Sun. 5 p.m. -- Gospel Service

### **Bible Studies**

Mon. 7:30 to 9 p.m. -- Christianity/Islam Comparative Bible Study

Wed. 7:30 to 9 p.m. -- Egypt in the Bible

## **Base legal services**

The base legal office offers legal services for personal and civil issues. Legal services such as powers of attorney, wills and general legal counsel are offered at the following times:

\* Tuesdays and Thursdays 8 to 11 a.m.

\* Fridays 6 to 9 p.m. or by appointment.

Contact Capt. Kevin Wilkinson or SSgt. Donese Scott at 428-5735.

## **Mail service**

Incoming and outgoing mail service is available at Qui Web. Mail service may be delayed because the postal service is no longer able to use commercial aircraft to send mail and must now redirect its distribution through cargo flights. People are able to purchase stamps and should drop outgoing mail into the mailboxes located in tent city and the KSPAN.

## **What's a "Qui Web?"**

During the planning conferences for BRIGHT STAR 01/02 the French military planners kept referring to Cairo West Air Base as "Qui Web," pronounced "Key Web." "Qui Web" stand for the letters "C" and "W" for Cairo West. The name "Qui Web" sounded more appealing, like a tropical resort area than the words Cairo West, so the BRIGHT STAR planners decided to coin the name "Qui Web" as the name of the base here.